Centrally sponsored schemes for employment generation in J&K

606. SHRI T.S. BAJWA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any centrally sponsored schemes including foreign funding are presently available in Jammu and Kashmir for employment generation;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the present status of those schemes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. VALLABHBHAI RAMJIBHAI KATHIRIA): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Priority to vocational education

607. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the ORG in 1996 and NCERT in 1998 evaluated that the States were according low priority to vocational education;

(b) if so, details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(c) the steps being taken by Government to divert the students in the vocational stream to meet the immense demand for skilled man power generated by the policies of liberalization and globalization;

(d) whether there is any action plan to make the vocational education more attractive and meaningful;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the progress in the implementation and the result achieved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. VALLABHBHAI RAMJIBHAI KATHIRIA): (a) to (f) Operation Research Group in 1996 and the Working Group constituted under the Chairmanship of Director, NCERT in 1998

reviewed the scheme of Vocationalisation of Secondary Education. The review groups have made certain observations on the implementation of the Scheme. These included low priority being accorded to Vocational Education by States as compared to other State run programmes, lack of awareness of the scheme among parents and students, absence of appropriate identification of courses etc. Based on the recommendations of these reviews and to make the scheme more attractive and meaningful the existing scheme of Vocationalisation of Secondary Education is being revised. Under the proposed revised scheme the industry and user organizations will be involved at all stages of implementation of the scheme from identification of courses, preparation and design of curriculum to actual on-site training. The courses shall be competency based, modular in nature and demand driven based on the need based surveys to make them more employment oriented. Opportunity for acquisition of multiple skills shall be available to students to improve their employability.

Fee structure in private schools and colleges

608. SHRI H.K. JAVARE GOWDA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) what are Government's guidelines for fixing the fee structure in private schools and colleges in the country;

(b) whether it is a fact that schools and colleges are charging exhorbitant fee and donations and swindling the common people; and

(c) if so, the details of the steps, so far, taken or proposed to be taken to regulate the fee structure in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. VALLABHBHAI RAMJIBHAI KATHIRIA): (a) to (c) The control over the functioning of the Private Schools is largely the responsibility of the concerned State/UT Government where the School is located. There is a provision in the Bye-Laws of the Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) and the Council for the Indian School Certificate Examination (CISCE) that the fees charged by the schools should be commensurate with the facilities provided. CBSE has issued instructions for ensuring compliance of this provision.